

Iron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE.
IRONTON, MISSOURI.

CURRENT TOPICS.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD.

PRESIDENT HAYES is reported to have said that he will sign the Deficiency bill as it passed the House, with Garfield's amendment providing for the equal apportionment of Deputy Marshals between the various parties.

THE Duchess of Marlborough has written a letter to the Lord Mayor of London, stating there is now no fear of famine in Ireland, but that there is dire destitution in mountainous parts and on the seacoast. There is great need of clothing and seed.

THE United States Circuit Court has pronounced unconstitutional the law recently passed by the California Legislature forbidding the employment of Chinese by corporations chartered by the State.

GEN. GRANT and party arrived at Galveston, on the 23d, on the steamer City of Mexico. The General and his party were met at the pier by the Mayor and all the prominent officers of the city, and by Gen. Ord. A procession escorted him to his hotel, where in the evening a grand reception was held.

A RECENT dispatch from St. Petersburg says arrests continue to be made. Among those recently taken into custody are a number of employees of the Ministry of Ways and Communications and some thirty students. A census is being made of St. Petersburg, and all persons without fixed occupation or means of subsistence will be expelled from the city.

THE celebrated Maxwell land grant, comprising some 800,000 acres in all, of which 600,000 acres are in the north-east corner of New Mexico and the other 200,000 adjacent in Colorado, has been sold under foreclosure to an association of capitalists, who will at once proceed to develop the property.

THE Republican opponents of a third-term have called a National Mass Convention, to be held in St. Louis on May 6th. The movement grew out of the late anti-Grant meeting held in that city, at which ex-Senator Henderson made an address.

THE Texas Republican State Convention was held at Austin on the 24th. Ex Gov. E. J. Davis presided. A resolution was adopted declaring Gen. Grant the first choice of the Republicans of Texas, but deeming it inexpedient to instruct the delegates to the National Convention further than that they vote as a unit. The delegation is said to stand thirteen for Grant and three for Blaine. During the session of the Convention a telegram from Galveston was received, inviting the delegates to call in a body upon Gen. Grant, and the latter also sent a personal telegram to the Soldiers' Reunion, thanking them for their congratulatory address.

A WASHINGTON special of the 25th says: "The action of the House to-day, referring Mr. Townsend's bill to the Committee on Ways and Means, is conceded, cut off all prospect of any tariff legislation during the present session. In their meeting to-day the Ways and Means Committee had a long discussion over the proceedings in the House for the last two days, and agreed, should such action be taken, as has since followed, that further steps would not be taken in the direction of changing the existing tariff laws. Representatives Wells and Tucker and the other Free Traders on the committee took issue on this subject, and declared that they would make an effort to report a measure which would at least secure a vote indicating the position of parties in the House on this question. They stated that upwards of ninety bills affecting the tariff have been introduced into the House during the present session, which is sufficient evidence of the opinions of a large portion of that body on this subject, and their opinions are entitled to some recognition."

A PARTY of seventy-nine destitute children and sixteen adults left New York City on the 23d for homes in the West. They are sent by Whitelaw Reid, of the New York Tribune, at the expense of a wealthy benefactor whose name is not made public. The children, unaccompanied by parents, go to Burlington, Kansas, where homes will be procured for them in families of neighboring farmers. The families will go to different places in the West, where there are fair prospects of success in life.

GEN. GRANT has accepted invitations to visit Little Rock and Hot Springs, Ark., naming the 12th of April as about the time he may be expected.

PROF. BARKER, of the University of Pennsylvania, Prof. Roland, of the Johns Hopkins University, and Prof. Brackett and Young, of Princeton College, recently accepted a commission from Edison to examine his plan of electric lighting, on condition that the report of their labors should be made public, whether favorable or not. For two weeks the laboratory machine-shop, and generator-room have been thrown open to them, and every facility extended to them in prosecuting their investigations. Their report will be looked for with great interest.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

SAMANA, Santo Domingo, has been almost entirely destroyed by fire.

THE first through car to Port Royal, S. C., over the Cincinnati Southern Railway, with the Port Royal delegation from the great railway celebration, arrived on the 21st, in thirty-four hours from Cincinnati.

SAMUEL H. MYERS was hanged at Cleburne, Tex., on the 19th, for the murder of Mrs. A. Hester, in February, 1877.

JOHN QUINN, aged 53, a leader of the Fenian invasion of Canada in 1853, hanged himself at Buffalo, N. Y., on the 21st.

At Marshall, Tex., on the 22d, Frank Lewis, proprietor of a boarding-house, poisoned his twelve-year old son and then took a fatal dose himself. Both died. Lewis had for some time exhibited symptoms of insanity.

THE Grand Sheriff of Mecca has been assassinated by a Persian fanatic, dressed as a Dervish. The agitation among the Mussulmans on account of the crime is said to be intense.

A NEGRO was recently lynched near Honeyville, Page County, Va., for killing a little son of his employer, at whom he had become enraged for some trivial offense.

Two young children of a colored man named Aaron Thompson, who lived in the second story of a small frame building in the western suburbs of St. Louis, were burned to death on the evening of the 23d. The explosion of a coal oil lamp in the apartment set fire to the building. A colored woman named Mrs. Kennon, who lived in the lower part of the house, made an heroic effort to save the children, but was unable to do so. She was badly burned.

THE President has nominated James B. Angell, of Michigan, Minister to China, vice George F. Seward, recalled. Also, John F. Swift, of California, and William H. Trescott, of South Carolina, Commissioners to China to negotiate a treaty.

At Lawrenceville, Pa., on the 24th, Sidney Green killed his wife and then shot himself dead to avoid arrest. No cause stated.

A SEVERE snow storm prevailed throughout the Eastern States, extending as far West as Ohio, on the 24th and 25th. Railroads were blocked in many localities.

PARLIAMENT was prorogued on the 24th. Queen Victoria and Princess Beatrice left for Germany on the day following.

MR. E. D. STANFORD has resigned the Presidency of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, on account of ill health. Mr. H. V. Newcomb, former Vice-President, succeeds him, and Mr. E. H. Green, former Second Vice-President, is promoted to fill the vacancy. It is stated that all differences between this company and the Nashville and Chattanooga have been amicably adjusted.

THE Interior Department has been informed that a large number of Sitting Bull's band have applied at Fort Peck, for rations, offering to surrender their arms and ponies. These surrenders, Secretary Schurz says, will have to be made to military posts.

THE Rhode Island Democrats have nominated Horace M. Kimball for Governor.

THE Tennessee State Greenback Convention will be held at Nashville on the 27th of May, to select delegates to the Chicago Convention.

THE Atlantic and Great Western Railway Company has ceased to exist, its entire property and franchises having passed into the hands of the newly organized New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad Company.

SENATOR BALDWIN, of Michigan, referring to the Christianity scandal, says that both parties are more or less to blame, but not criminally so.

SENATOR TELLER has given notice of an amendment to the Ute Indian bill, providing for certain yearly allowances to Mrs. Meeker, her daughter and other sufferers by the White River massacre.

THE Democratic State Convention of Minnesota has been called at St. Paul on the 20th of May.

Two Texas colored murderers were hanged on the 26th: John Henry, at Corsicana, for the murder of Alonzo Winterman, also colored, in January, 1879; and Allen Towles, at Fairfield, for the murder of his wife. On the same day George Jackson was hanged at Dallas, Ga., for the murder of Jack Moss.

At St. Louis, on the 26th, Jacob Frey, an Austrian, cut his wife's throat and then killed her. Both were taken to the hospital and may recover. The old couple had quarreled a good deal about money matters, and this is the only known cause for the crime.

HOMER WELLINGTON, the wealthy young merchant of Cambridge, Mass., who was arrested a few days ago on suspicion of having poisoned his wife and child, by reason of being infatuated with another woman, has confessed that he poisoned his wife, but denies having poisoned his child.

DR. LECOMTE and Capt. C. B. West, 14th Infantry, engaged in a street duel at Fort Douglas, Utah, the other day. Both were wounded, and it is thought that West will not recover. The difficulty is said to have been about a woman.

ANOTHER secret printing establishment has been discovered at St. Petersburg, and sixteen compositors engaged in it have been arrested.

THE Colombians are said to be much exercised over reports from Washington that the American Government will oppose the construction of a canal by a foreign company. They say they want no protectorate, neither French nor American, and will submit to neither without striking back as hard as they can.

EIGHT persons, nearly all Mexicans, were recently massacred by Indians, supposed to be a portion of Victorio's band, near Santa Barbara, N. Mex.

THE United States Ship Constellation, laden with supplies for the poor of Ireland, sailed from New York on the 27th. Commander Potter has discretionary orders to land his cargo either at Kingstown, Queenstown or Galway.

A FIRE-DAMP explosion occurred in Thomson's coal mines at Fairmont, Va., on the 27th, by which miners James Reese and James Work lost their lives. A number of men were in the mines at the time and escaped more or less bruised and burned.

DURING the recent severe storm in the Gulf of Mexico the Norwegian ship Reform, lying outside of Galveston harbor parted her cables and went to pieces. The vessel was laden with 3,000 bales of cotton, and was destined for Havre.

At Louisville, Ky., on the night of the

27th, Frank Simmons, a box-maker, had a quarrel with one Alfred, an ex-Penitentiary convict, regarding a woman of bad repute, when Alfred stabbed Simmons in the neck, killing him almost instantly.

At Springfield, Ill., on the 28th, Patrick Fenton, an employee in the rolling-mills, beat his wife's brains out with a sledge-hammer. The circumstances of the crime indicate insanity.

EDGAR M. MARBLE, Law Officer Interior Department, will be appointed Commissioner of Patents, and J. G. McCammon will succeed Marble.

GEN. H. E. PAINE, Commissioner of Patents, has tendered his resignation on the ground that he can not well afford to hold an office which pays only \$4,500 a year.

FORTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

MARCH 23.—Senate.—The bill incorporating the National Educational Association was discussed at some length, after which the Geneva Award bill was taken up.

Mr. Garland spoke thereon, and Mr. House—Considerable discussion was had upon the action taken yesterday in referring to the Committee on Revision of Laws a bill to amend Title 35 of the Revised Statutes, which Mr. Conger (R., Mich.) declared related to the whole question of tariff and should have been referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Townsend (D., Ill.) said he introduced the bill, whose title clearly showed that it was a tariff bill, and that it was the duty of the Committee on Ways and Means to take it up. The bill was then referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Townsend added: "The motive I had in sending the bill to the Committee on Revision of Laws was to draw attention to the fact that the majority of the Committee on Ways and Means, that I knew you might as well put it off, as send it to that committee." Mr. Garland (R., Cal.) moved to amend the Journal so as to refer the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means. After a short debate the motion was agreed to, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

MARCH 24.—Senate.—The bill incorporating a National Educational Association was taken up and opposed by Senator Carpenter as unconstitutional. The morning hour expired. The Geneva Award bill was considered. Mr. House—Mr. McLane (D., Md.) introduced a resolution providing for the suspension of the rules, and referred to the Committee on Revision of Laws a bill to amend Title 35 of the Revised Statutes, which Mr. Conger (R., Mich.) declared related to the whole question of tariff and should have been referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Townsend (D., Ill.) said he introduced the bill, whose title clearly showed that it was a tariff bill, and that it was the duty of the Committee on Ways and Means to take it up. The bill was then referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

MARCH 25.—Senate.—Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, introduced a joint resolution providing for a commission to consider and report what legislation is needed for a better regulation of commerce among the States. The bill incorporating the National Educational Association was taken up and opposed by Senator Carpenter as unconstitutional. The morning hour expired. The Geneva Award bill was considered. Mr. House—Mr. McLane (D., Md.) introduced a resolution providing for the suspension of the rules, and referred to the Committee on Revision of Laws a bill to amend Title 35 of the Revised Statutes, which Mr. Conger (R., Mich.) declared related to the whole question of tariff and should have been referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Townsend (D., Ill.) said he introduced the bill, whose title clearly showed that it was a tariff bill, and that it was the duty of the Committee on Ways and Means to take it up. The bill was then referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

MARCH 26.—Senate.—Not in session. House.—The entire session was consumed in considering bills of a private nature.

MARCH 27.—Senate.—Not in session. House.—Mr. Stables, Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported back the resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior for information as to any frauds or corrupt practices of any employees of the Indian service since the 1st of July, 1877; also a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior for copies of the testimony taken by Gen. Hatch and Adams touching the late outbreak. Both were adopted. A number of bills were received and referred. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation bill.

MARCH 28.—Senate.—Messrs. Allison and Teller gave notice of the proposed amendment to the bill ratifying the Ute agreement. The bill incorporating the National Educational Association was taken up and opposed by Senator Carpenter as unconstitutional. The morning hour expired. The Geneva Award bill was considered. Mr. House—Mr. McLane (D., Md.) introduced a resolution providing for the suspension of the rules, and referred to the Committee on Revision of Laws a bill to amend Title 35 of the Revised Statutes, which Mr. Conger (R., Mich.) declared related to the whole question of tariff and should have been referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. Mr. Townsend (D., Ill.) said he introduced the bill, whose title clearly showed that it was a tariff bill, and that it was the duty of the Committee on Ways and Means to take it up. The bill was then referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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The Paradise of Insects.

None but those who have traveled on the Upper Amazons can have any idea of the number and voracity of the insect torments which work their wicked will on the bodies of the unfortunates exposed to their attacks. The "sancudos," or small sand-flies, form by far the most important section. In the villages, round which the forest is cleared away for some distance, the sancudos are generally pretty quiet during the day, except where darkness prevails; there they are ever busy, and are a perfect plague. The triumphant note of a sancudo which has made his way under your curtain is more annoying than even his bite; and should you have been careless in getting into bed, and been accompanied by two or three of these blood-suckers, we will defy you to sleep until you have exterminated them.

In the forest and on the river the sancudos are always busy. Men sometimes get into the vessel's tops, and there cover themselves with sacks, notwithstanding the heat, rather than remain below exposed to their attacks. Fortunately they can not stand a current of air, and so when under way the vessel is comparatively free from them, but when at anchor these pests are something awful. To get rid of them is next to impossible. Creosote will keep them off, but the remedy is as bad as the disease. Whitewash will drive them away, but when dry its power ceases; and the only thing to do is either to cover all exposed parts of the body with black pigment *a la mode indienne*, or else to "grin and bear it."

Scarcely less troublesome than the sancudos are the mosquitoes, although they have the negative merit of biting only by day. They are minute creatures, not much larger than a pin's head; they prefer the backs of the hands to any other spot for their attacks. But, unlike the sancudo, which, when undisturbed, gorges himself until unable to fly, and becomes an easy prey to your avenging finger, the mosquito never seems to take too much to prevent his easy escape on the slightest appearance of danger, being evidently just as wide-awake when full as when empty.

Everywhere in long grass lurks the "moquim," a little red insect so small as to be almost imperceptible, but which fastens on the legs, causing the most intolerable itching.

There is a fly which burrows in the skin and deposits an egg, both in human beings and animals. This produces a maggot, similar in shape to that of the common blow-fly, but much larger, probably analogous to the Guinea-worm.

Then there are "chigos," which burrow mostly in the soles of the feet. You feel an intense itching, and on examination find a little thing like a pea just under the epidermis; this is the bag containing the young chigos, which must be carefully picked out with the point of a knife, and the cavity left filled with tobacco ash.

Huge spiders abound, whose very appearance inspires a wholesome dread of the nearest acquaintance, but which are harmless enough if let alone. In fact, on board the steamers, almost every cabin is tenanted by one large spider, whose presence is tolerated on account of his being a deadly foe to cockroaches, which abominable creatures swarm on board. Sometimes he is not visible for a fortnight or more at a time; but he leaves tokens of "having been there," in the shape of the empty-husks of cockroaches, from which he has carefully abstracted the interior. These spiders have the power of springing upon their prey from a distance, and some of them are so large and powerful as to kill and devour small birds.

In passing through the narrow forest paths it is necessary to be on the look-out for the wood-ticks, which are very difficult to get rid of if once firmly attached; also for the huge black ants, an inch and a half in length, which sting like a hornet's; and the snuba ant, without sting, but armed with nippers like a pair of surgical bone-forceps, which are running about every where. One may sometimes chance upon a column of the dreaded "fire-ants," marching in regular military order; and if he does, the only thing is to bolt at once, for neither man nor beast may withstand the fire-ant and live. When at length the traveler stops to rest, he must take care to examine the camping ground to see that neither centipede nor scorpion is there.

Frequently both centipedes and scorpions are found on the steamers, introduced no doubt, in the wood used as fuel. One day while the writer was watching the hands taking wood from canoes alongside, from one of the logs pitched on board was dislodged a scorpion, which fell on the naked left arm of a man keeping tally at the gangway. Astonished by his sudden flight through the air, the animal remained perfectly still. The man never moved a muscle, and quietly raising his right hand, slipped it away with his fingers and thumb. He was very neatly and coolly done; and he thus escaped a sting, which he no doubt would have received had he tried to brush it hastily away.—*Harper's Young People.*

Distribution of Plants.

The world is full of wonders to every one who has not made up his mind to be astonished at nothing he may see. To the thoughtful mind there is much in nature to inspire wonder and admiration. The wise adaptation of means to ends, and the beautiful harmony that exists throughout all the realm of organic nature, lead the mind, free from bias, to the inference that some wise, intelligent power orders and governs all these relations and harmonies. Perhaps nowhere in nature is there a more manifest exhibition of wisdom in the adaptation of means to the accomplishment of a worthy purpose, than is seen in the various methods employed by nature for the dissemination of plants by the distribution of seeds.

In looking at this subject with an intelligent eye, the mind can not shut out the conviction that some intelligent designer must have been employed in planning this scheme that has so much of both excellence and variety to recommend it to the judgment. To say that all this is to be attributed to chance, or to endow chance with all the attributes of a Deity, which is the very reverse of the idea intended to be conveyed by the

FUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

—Salt codfish should be sold under the name of dry goods.

—The hornet and mule are too tender-hearted to look upon suffering. They always turn their back when they strike.

—"The darky's hour is just before the dawn," remarked Sambo, when he started out before daybreak to steal a young chicken.

—They let dogs play with human bones in the by-streets of St. Louis, but of course not until after it is known that they are the bones of some man from Chicago.—*Detroit Free Press.*

—A furnishing goods dealer is about to introduce some new cravats. They are made of Indian stuff, and he calls them "Poncas," because they are Bright ties.—*Boston Commercial Bulletin.*

—"That's what I call a finished sermon," said a lady to her husband, as they wended their way from church. "Yes," was the reply; "but, do you know, I thought it never would be."

—James Dodge kept a grocery in a Pennsylvania town twenty-five years and never once put a line in the local papers regarding his business. He said he did not propose to have people call him an advertising Dodge.—*Rome Sentinel.*

—An exchange refers to the language of the postage stamp. But we do not think the postage stamp has any language that expresses any thing. If it had, we believe it would holler "enough" when it is licked.—*Keokuk Gate City.*

—This Cincinnati criticism on "The Pirates of Penzance" will be appreciated by those who have seen the piece, and remembered by those who are a terrific mustache had his right calf on wrong side out.

—They were sitting together Sunday evening, with an album or two between them, when she pleasantly asked, "How would you like to have my mother live with you?" In just fifteen seconds he had his hat down half way over his face, and was bolting through the gate.—*Danbury News.*

—A Vermont man who tried to walk on snow-shoes contrived to get the barn-door off its hinges, tear down three rods of fence and get stuck, head down, in a drift, before his wife could find breath to tell him that he was a great awkward fool. Snow shoes are not such easy things to handle.

—When a Massachusetts woman wants to know which lodge her husband attended on a given night, she goes on a round of charity calls until she finds the hat that he exchanged for a much poorer one, hanging in a hallway. Then there is the warmth of a summer day, and he has to endure it.

The Perilous Puzzle.

While we whirl away on the Atlantic & Great Western, the only road in free America that is as broad as it is long, the fat passenger asked me if I "ever worked out the fifteen